

What is claimed is:

1. A computer mouse system for use with a computer application program

comprising:

- 5 (a) a computer mouse having:

a position sensing mechanism;

a left mouse button, having a top, a front and a left side, that is actuated by a force applied to the top, the front or the left side of the button; and

- 10 a right mouse button, having a top, a front and a right side, that is actuated by a force applied to the top, the front or the right side of the button; and

- (b) a mouse driver that generates a left button user interface signal and transmits the signal to the computer application program when the right button is actuated, or when the left and right buttons are actuated simultaneously.

2. The computer mouse system of claim 1, further comprising:

a computer readable disc which contains the computer code for the mouse driver.

20

3. The computer mouse system of claim 1, further comprising:

a left hinge that connects the left button to the mouse located proximate the top center of the mouse and a right hinge that connects the right button to the mouse located proximate the top center of the mouse.

25

4. The computer mouse system of claim 1, wherein the left side of the left button is vertically angled and a horizontal force applied to the left side of the left button actuates the left mouse button.

5 5. The computer mouse system of claim 4, wherein the right side of the right button is vertically angled and a horizontal force applied to the right side of the right button actuates the right mouse button.

6. The computer mouse system of claim 1, wherein the front surface of the left
10 button is vertically angled and wherein a horizontal force applied to the front of the left button actuates the left mouse button.

7. The computer mouse system of claim 1, wherein the front surface of the right
15 button is vertically angled and a horizontal force applied to the front of the right button actuates the right mouse button.

8. The computer mouse system of claim 1, wherein a lower edge of the left
mouse button forms a continuous arc and any horizontal force directed
towards the mouse applied proximate the lower edge of the left mouse button
20 actuates the left mouse button.

9. The computer mouse system of claim 1, wherein a lower edge of the right
mouse button forms a continuous arc and any horizontal force directed
towards the mouse applied proximate the lower edge of the right mouse button
25 actuates the right mouse button.

10. The computer mouse system of claim 1, wherein when a first horizontal force is applied to the left side of the left mouse button and a second horizontal force is applied to the right side of the right mouse button simultaneously, both the left mouse button and the right mouse button are actuated.

11. The computer mouse system of claim 1, further comprising:
a mode switching program on the computer that responds to a mode control signal by altering the operation of the mouse driver such that a right button user interface signal is generated and transmitted to the computer application program when the right button is actuated.

12. A computer mouse for use with a computer application program comprising:
a position sensing mechanism;
a left mouse button, having a top, a front and a left side, and a left button switch;
a right mouse button, having a top, a front and a right side; and a right button switch that is shorted to the electrical output of the left button switch such that the computer mouse transmits a left button actuation signal to the computer when the right button switch is actuated.

13. The computer mouse of claim 12, further comprising:

a left hinge that connects the left button to the mouse located proximate the top center of the mouse and a right hinge that connects the right button to the mouse located proximate the top center of the mouse.

5

14. The computer mouse of claim 12, wherein the left side of the left button is vertically angled and a horizontal force applied to the left side of the left button actuates the left mouse button.

10

15. The computer mouse of claim 14, wherein the right side of the right button is vertically angled and a horizontal force applied to the right side of the right button actuates the right mouse button.

15

16. The computer mouse of claim 12, wherein the front surface of the left button is vertically angled and wherein a horizontal force applied to the front of the left button actuates the left mouse button.

20

17. The computer mouse of claim 12, wherein the front surface of the right button is vertically angled and a horizontal force applied to the front of the right button actuates the right mouse button.

25

18. The computer mouse of claim 12, wherein a lower edge of the left mouse button forms a continuous arc and any horizontal force directed towards the mouse applied proximate the lower edge of the left mouse button actuates the left mouse button.

19. The computer mouse of claim 12, wherein a lower edge of the right mouse button forms a continuous arc and any horizontal force directed towards the mouse applied proximate the lower edge of the right mouse button actuates the right mouse button.

5

20. The computer mouse of claim 12, further comprising:
a mode switch connected to the right button that disconnects the right button switch from the left button switch such that a right button signal is transmitted to the computer when the right button is actuated.

10